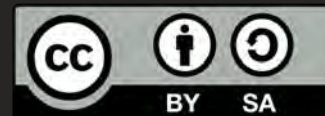


Increasing the Visibility and Impact of Nigerian Research

Webinar 31 August 2023

Tom Olyhoek
DOAJ Head of Outreach
DOAB consultant



One of DOAJ's major aims
is to raise the profile of open access
journals in **non-English speaking
countries.**

We are a signatory of the **Helsinki Initiative.**



Research is international. Multilingualism keeps
locally relevant research alive. Protect it!
Disseminating research results in your own
language creates impact. ”



helsinki-initiative.org

Nature of research and Knowledge production in Africa

"Well-grounded knowledge with its corresponding power will not emerge in Africa until she has her own scholars, whose duty and responsibility will be not only to gather facts and information, but also to interpret them from the African perspective."- Mazi Okoro Ojiaku (1974) in Traditional African Social Thought and Western Scholars.

"Africa has to begin by studying and interpreting herself and her own world, as well as with re-examining and re-interpreting existing data on herself."- Mazi Okoro Ojiaku

About DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals

Founded in 2003 to support the
growing OA community.



- Mission to raise profile, visibility and impact of all quality OA journals, globally regardless of discipline, geography or language.
- Independent not-for-profit service funded entirely by donations
- Our services are provided **completely free of charge to all**, including review, journal listing, metadata distribution
- PlanS requires authors to publish in OA journals which need to be indexed in the DOAJ (Or use the repository road or Rights Retention Strategy)

“Open Science is just Science done right”

Jon Tennant



DOAJ statistics

Average of **836**
applications
received each
month (2021)

35% of
applications
accepted for
inclusion

Maximum time
to review
applications is **3**
months



DOAJ statistics (continued)

Over 70% of listed journals without APC

Average **>1.1 million visits** per month to DOAJ website (2021)

Core editorial team of **12**, and more than **120** volunteer editors and associate editors

Worldwide coverage

Find open access journals & articles.

☒ Journals ☐ Articles

In all fields 

SEARCH

80	134	13,338	19,743	9,148,620
LANGUAGES	COUNTRIES REPRESENTED	JOURNALS WITHOUT APCs	JOURNALS	ARTICLE RECORDS

DOAJ

Journals in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)

(7 August 2023)

Number of countries

134

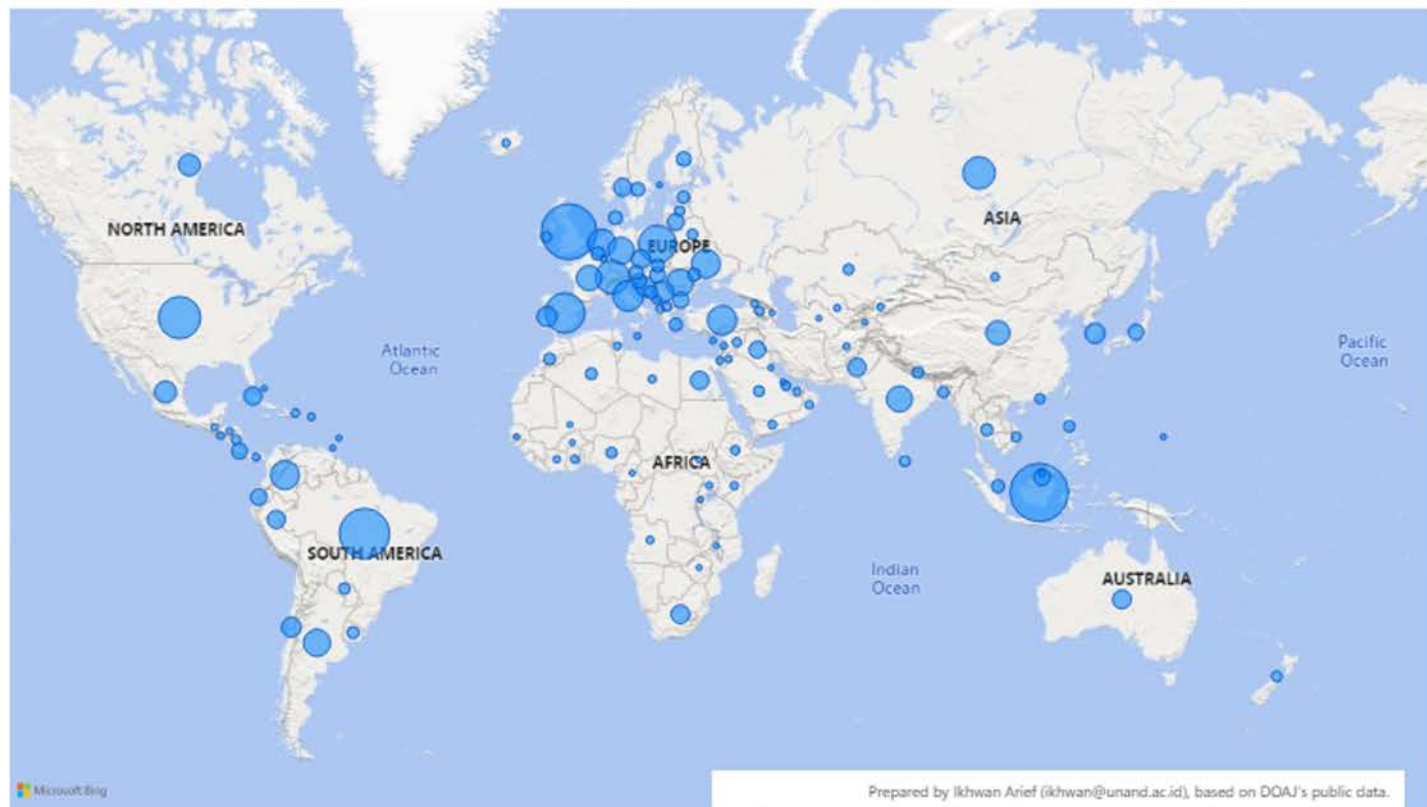
Number of journals

19,709

Number of articles

9102475

Country	# of Journal
Indonesia	2299
United Kingdom	2069
Brazil	1650
United States	1098
Spain	979
Poland	841
Iran, Islamic Republic of	811
Switzerland	664
Russian Federation	581
Italy	512
Türkiye	465
Colombia	439
Ukraine	437
Netherlands	411
Romania	377
Argentina	375
Germany	368
India	335
France	311
China	272
Mexico	214
Canada	213
Serbia	210
Korea, Republic of	170
Portugal	166
Total	19709



Prepared by Ikhwan Arief (ikhwan@unand.ac.id), based on DOAJ's public data.
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

All the major **discovery services pick up our metadata**



75% of traffic to DOAJ is referrals



DOAJ generates between 35,000 and 45,000 user sessions per day
(Google Analytics)



Our metadata cascades into all the major discovery services across
disciplines, languages

- *Web of Science, Scopus, Primo, Summon, EBSCO, Google, Google Scholar, OCLC, WorldCat, Dimensions, university discovery systems.*

Global Journal Indexing Services



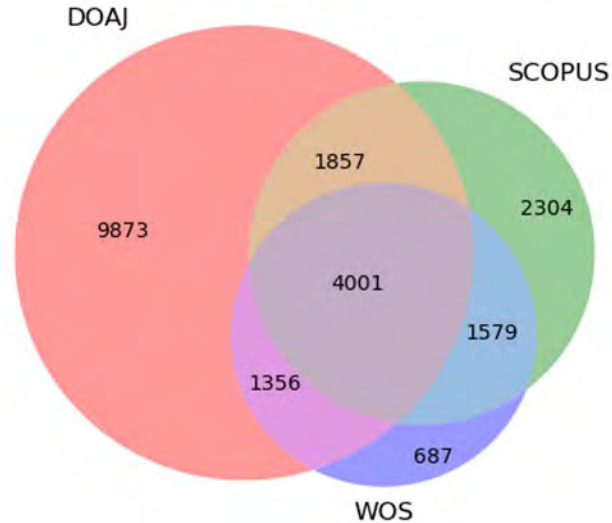
How is DOAJ different from other indexing services?



- No ranking
- Most inclusive index
- Only lists Open Access journals
- No need for English language
- Active promotion of local language journals
- Robust and easy criteria

DOAJ, Scopus & Web of Science

How do they compare?

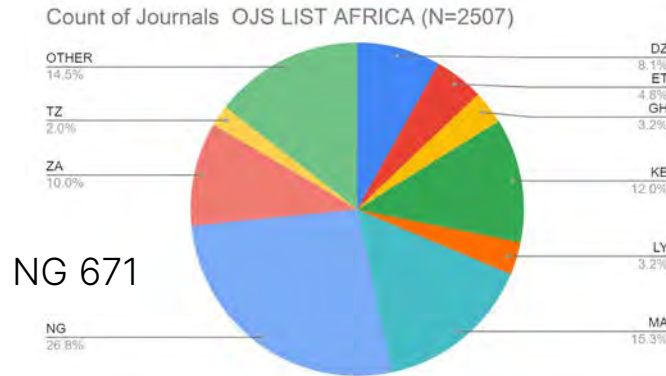




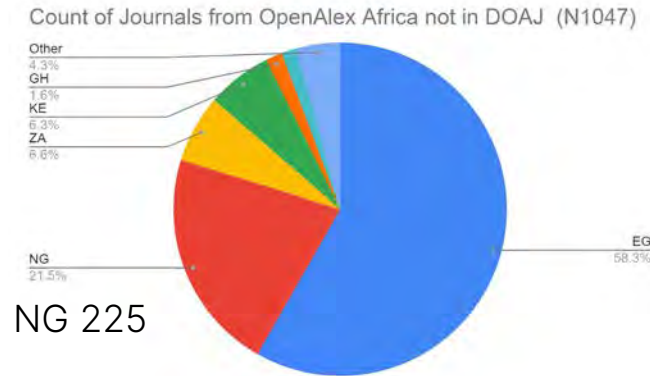
The African Publishing Landscape



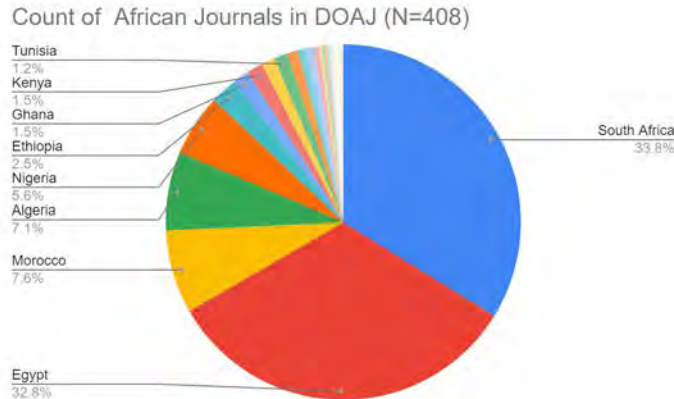
Number of OA Journals from Africa in different lists



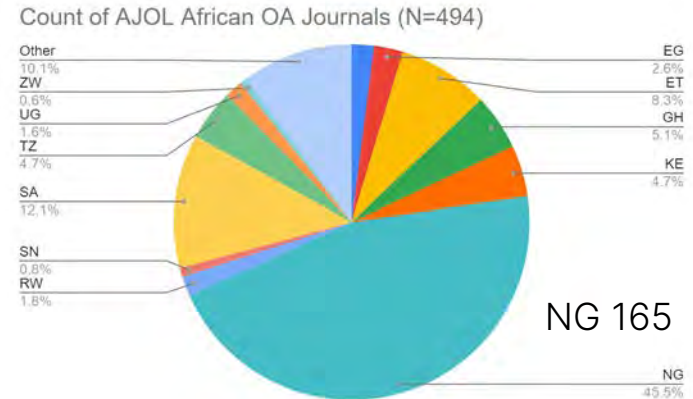
NG 671



NG 225



NG 23



NG 165

Nigeria has the **highest
number of research journals**
from all African countries

There are only **23** Nigerian journals
indexed in DOAJ

Why?



-
- Distrust of non-biased assessments by DOAJ
 - Few submissions for inclusion
 - Frequent rejections
 - No active acquisitions
 - Not enough help
 - Lacking knowledge on advantages of being in DOAJ
 - Focus on being listed in Web of Science / Scopus



A vast amount of
research is invisible



- Sample of 25,671 journals using OJS
- 79.9% from the Global South, 84.2% following the OA diamond model
- Only 1.2% are indexed in the Web of Science, and 5.7% in Scopus
- 5.8 million items from 136 countries are largely ignored in the global research landscape

[Full article can be found here.](#)

Advantages for journals being listed in DOAJ



Why index journals in DOAJ?



Demonstrate your journal meets good publishing standards



Attract more authors and readers locally and from around the world



Inclusion of Journals in local languages



Increase discoverability of your journal in search engines and indexing services



Enhance the reputation and societal impact of your journal (also in your country)



DOAJ index included in government lists like DHET(South Africa)



DOAJ Ambassador programme: Focus on Africa



DOAJ Staff Outreach Activities

- Appointing Ambassadors for Nigeria
- Training of Ambassadors
- Participation in local and international conferences
- Promote policy changes for open access publishing

Ambassador Outreach Activities

- List more journals from Nigeria by active acquisition
- Training of editors for submitting journals to DOAJ
- Participation in local conferences
- Promotion of local language journals
- Translation of DOAJ information in local languages



DOAJ Ambassador Kamel Belhamel

Basic DOAJ criteria

Easier and simpler than you may have thought



1. Openness

- All journal content must be free **and** open access
- Immediate access - no delay or embargo
- No registration requirement
- A paid-for print version is allowed
- Journals must display an open access statement and adhere to DOAJ's definition of open access



2. Editorial processes

- All journals must apply a rigorous review process
- Peer review by at least two independent reviewers
 - Editorial review allowed only for journals in arts and humanities
 - Faculty oversight required for student journals
- Plagiarism checking recommended but not required for inclusion in DOAJ
 - State name of checking service or protocol used
- Registered and confirmed ISSN
- Open licensing
- Clear copyright terms



Importance of clear copyright



Copyright

- The copyright terms applied to the published content must be clearly stated and separate from the copyright terms applied to the website.
- Copyright terms must not contradict the licensing terms or the terms of the open access policy.

- “All rights reserved” is never appropriate for open access content
- “All rights reserved” may **only** be used for website design
- Copyright cannot be shared between publisher and author

Our preference is that the **author retains copyright**, without restrictions

but DOAJ does also accept journals where copyright is transferred

Copyright

DOAJ recommends that journals allow authors to retain the copyright of their papers, without restrictions. The authors can then grant the publisher non-exclusive publishing rights to publish the articles.

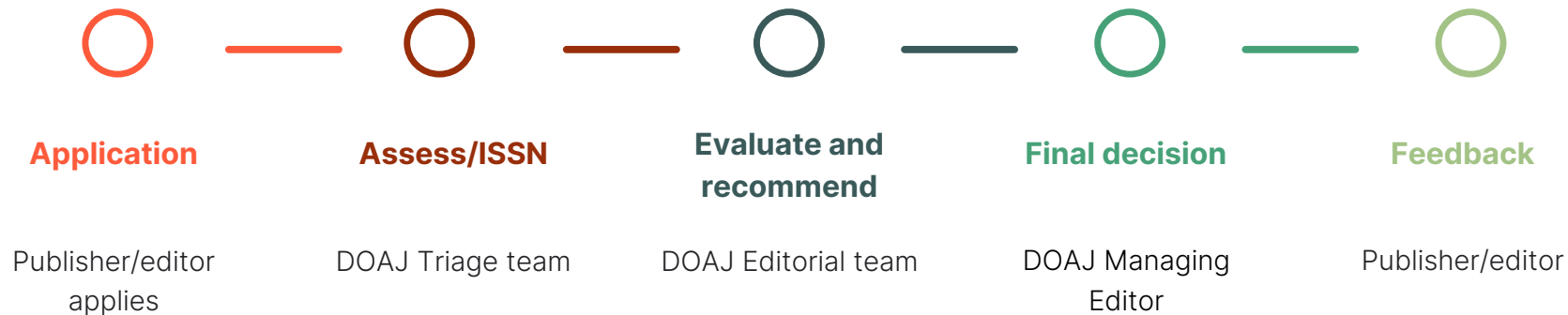
Sometimes, even though the author retains copyright, **restrictions are imposed by the publisher:**

- ❓ *The publisher requires **exclusive** publishing rights. The author no longer holds the copyright without restrictions.*
- ❓ *The publisher requires a transfer of commercial rights or an exclusive grant of commercial rights. The author no longer holds **copyright without restrictions**.*

Review procedure for inclusion in DOAJ



DOAJ Review and decision



Community projects to support OA journals



The OA Journals Toolkit is an online resource that provides guidance for new and established OA journals



PLACE is an online forum for publishers, editors and anyone involved in publishing. Launched and monitored by Crossref, DOAJ, COPE & OASPA



JASPER is an initiative to preserve OA journals



Help and documentation

Guide to applying

<https://doaj.org/apply/guide/>

Reference version of the application form

<https://doaj.org/static/doaj/docs/2021-02-17-DOAJQuestions.pdf>

DOAJ application guide for OJS journals

<https://docs.pkp.sfu.ca/doaj/en/>

LPC How-to Guide

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x1_JRbqX36wqSw7FIMiAqmAhrOzRW-q_XiEa4tvVdY/edit#heading=h.if3lw0or4ltm



OPEN SCHOLARLY BOOK PUBLISHING



Directory of Open Access Books

find books in DOAB...

search

Over 70,000 academic peer-reviewed books

Browse by subject • language • publisher

DOAB is a community-driven discovery service that indexes and provides access to scholarly, peer-reviewed open access books and helps users to find trusted open access book publishers. All DOAB services are free of charge and all data is freely available.

MISSION

- increase discoverability and visibility of OA books
- promote and build trust for OA book publishing

VALUES

- [POSI self-audit](#)
- Not-for-profit status (cannot be sold or acquired)



OAPEN Library (2010)

Hosting, distribution, preservation
30,000+ peer-reviewed OA books



Directory of Open Access Books (2013)

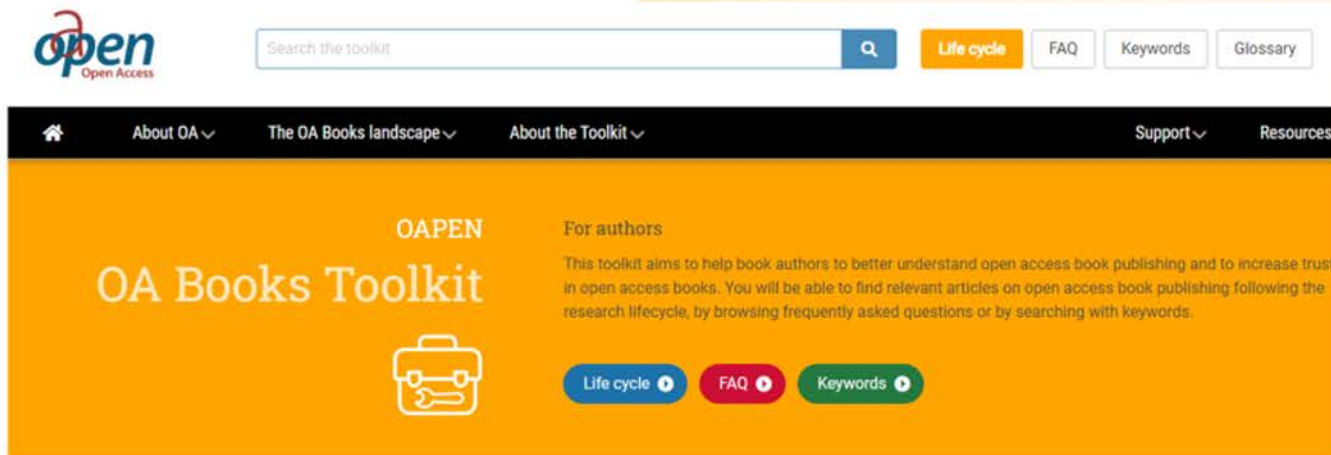
Global index
70,000+ peer-reviewed OA books



OAPEN OA Books Toolkit (2020)

Public information resource

OA BOOKS TOOLKIT



The OAPEN Open Access Books Toolkit covers specific topics related to open access books. Each article offers a quick and brief introduction to a particular aspect of open access book publishing. The toolkit also serves as a signposting tool: articles include a list of sources referenced, further reading and links to definitions of key terms.

<https://oabooks-toolkit.org>



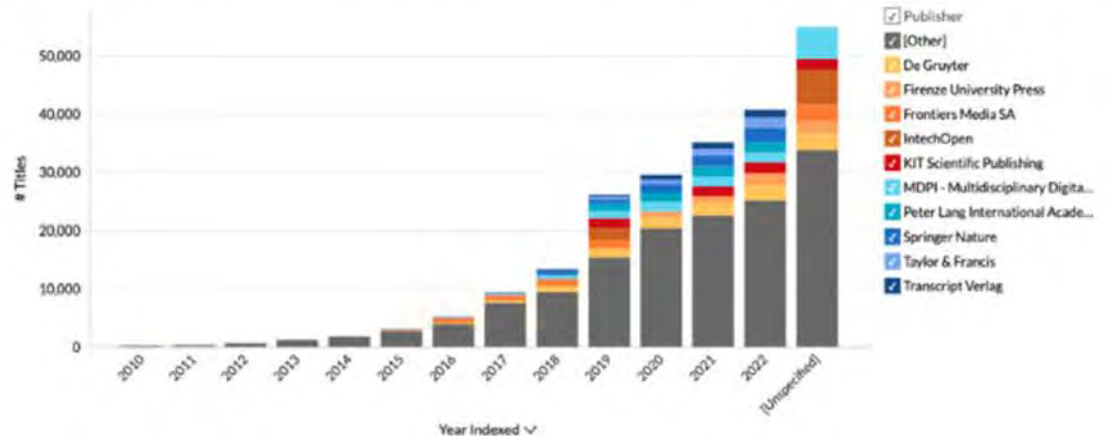
THE OPEN ACCESS BOOK MARKET



The books market is consolidated: the top 10 publishers are from Northern countries and account for around 48% of total output.

Very few books from Africa are listed.

Fig 2: DOAB cumulative # titles by top 10 publishers by year of submission to the index



DOAB LIST

Open Access book publishers in Nigeria:

- African Minds
- African Research and Documentation
- HEBN Publishers en University of Lagos Press
- University of Nigeria Nsukka Press
- University of Port Harcourt Press
- Others?

3188

Open access books from Africa

122

Open access books from Nigeria



SURVEY TO BE FILLED OUT BY NIGERIAN PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, POLICY MAKERS

Reasons

- Unclear how to publish open access books
- Little known submission process for DOAB
- No active acquisitions
- Not enough local help
- Lacking knowledge on advantages of being in DOAB

*Most books in DOAB
are in English and from
Northern countries*



EQUITY



GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD OF OA BOOKS

Most open access books in the DOAB are still from global north countries.

Same as with DOAJ , English is the dominant language in DOAB.



Why publish an open monograph?

Open science is just science done right (Jon Tennant)



institutional or funder
requirements



to share your research
(widely)



to be read and cited
(more)



to be acknowledged
and gain recognition
(prestige)

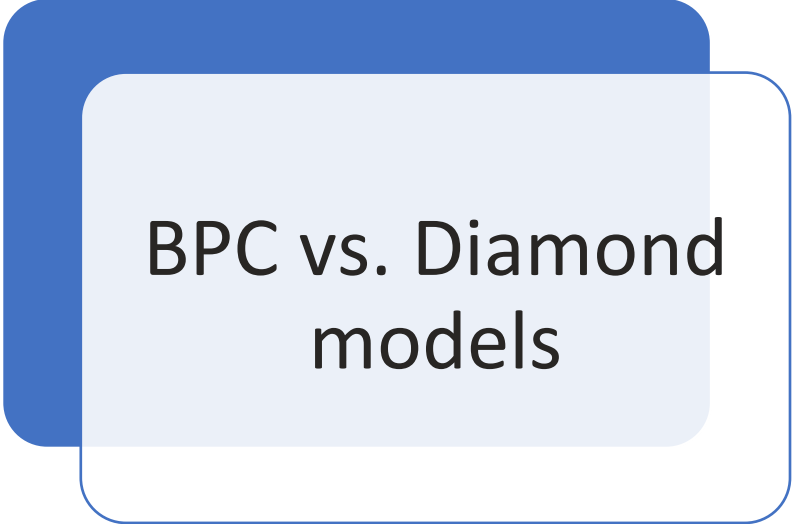


for tenure and
promotion



...

FUNDING OPEN ACCESS BOOKS



BPC vs. Diamond
models



Limited access to
funding in SSH
and the Global
South



TWO INITIATIVES TO INCREASE GLOBAL EQUITY



(1) Open Book Futures project

Three year project funded by Arcadia and Research England

DOAB project manager

Publisher outreach

Supporting an Ambassadors' programme

(2) DOAB in Africa - project

Two year project on a shoestring

Tom Olijhoek (DOAJ), Bastien Miraucourt (CNRS), Malavika Legge (OASPA)

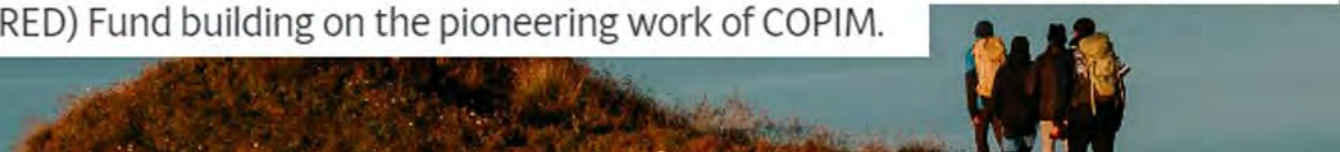
Awareness raising and engagement

Training (evaluation of applications)

Future: Ambassadors' programme (inspired by DOAJ)

Announcement of the launch of Open Book Futures, a 3-year project funded by Arcadia and Research England Development (RED) Fund building on the pioneering work of COPIM.

by COPIM



Open Book Futures will follow the principles of ‘Scaling Small’ that guided the work of the COPIM project, further developing the infrastructures, business models, networks and resources that are needed to deliver a future for Open Access books led not by large commercial operations, but by communities of scholars, small-to-medium-sized publishers, not-for-profit infrastructure providers, and scholarly libraries.

<https://copim.pubpub.org/pub/open-book-futures-announcement/release/1>

DOAB Ambassador programme: Focus on Africa





DOAB AMBASSADORS: FOCUS ON AFRICA



- Appointing Ambassadors for Nigeria
- List more books from Nigeria by active acquisition
- Training of publishers for submitting books to DOAB
- Participation in local conferences
- Discuss policy changes for open access publishing
- Promotion of local language books
- Translation of DOAB information in local languages



SUBMISSION PROCESS FOR OPEN ACCESS BOOKS



Requirements

The current main requirements to take part in DOAB are twofold:

- Academic books in DOAB shall be available under an open access licence (such as a Creative Commons licence)
- Academic books in DOAB shall be subjected to independent and external peer review prior to publication

The policies and procedures regarding peer review and licensing should be clearly outlined on the publisher's website. DOAB aims to develop an authoritative list of open access (OA) book publishers and we recommend publishers to follow OASPA's membership guidelines to ensure high standards of OA book publishing. You can consult these requirements here (under 'books'): <http://oaspa.org/membership/membership-criteria/>

Application

Publishers who wish to take part in DOAB must fill in the [application form](#). Use this form to describe the licence policy (or policies) and the peer review procedures. This information is reviewed by DOAB. After approval publishers get access to the DOAB admin tool, enabling them to upload the books.

TRUSTED PLATFORMS

DOAB collaborates with several trusted platforms to enhance the discoverability of open access books and create a more seamless process for publishers to list their open access books in DOAB.

Publishers can request the platform to check and verify which of their OA books meet the DOAB criteria allowing them to automatically list verified books in DOAB.



OAPEN

Library

OpenEdition

Project MUSE

SciELO Books

PRISM

The Peer Review Information Service for Monographs (PRISM) is a standardised way for academic publishers to display information about their peer review processes.

At publisher level, all their peer review processes are visible and at the level of an individual publication, the peer review process applied to that work is displayed.



- Provide transparency about peer review process(es)
- Build trust in OA book publishing



PRISM: Peer Review Information Service for Monographs

Welcome to PRISM – Peer Review Information Service for Monographs. PRISM is a service provided by [DOAB](#) as part of the [OPERAS service catalogue](#).

What are the benefits of PRISM?

PRISM is a standardised way for academic publishers to display information about their peer review processes across their entire catalogue. At the publisher level, all their peer review processes are visible (as they may have more than one process in use across all their series and titles). At the level of an individual publication, the peer review process applied to that work is displayed.

PRISM's goal is to provide transparency about the peer review process(es) that apply to their works. This helps build trust in open access academic book publishing.

To enable application integration, we have made a PRISM API available – learn more about the [PRISM API](#).

Community engagement



Open Access Books Network

<https://openaccessbooksnetwork.hcommons.org>

Conferences and webinars – more than 25 talks and presentations in 2022

Groups and fora OPERAS Executive Assembly, Think.Check.Submit committee, OASPA OA books interest group, OAeBU advisory board, Crossref books interest group, SCOSS, COESO advisory board

Projects

OA Book Usage Analytics for Diverse Communities,
<https://openknowledge.community/projects/bad-project>

PALOMERA, <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101094270>

OPERAS PLUS, <https://operas-eu.org/projects/operas-plus>

SUES4BOOKS, supporting Ukrainian publishers,
<https://sues.hypotheses.org>

SURVEY

Open Access survey - Nigeria

tom@doaj.org [Switch account](#)

* Indicates required question

Email *

Your email

I am a:

☐ Publisher

☐ Editor

☐ Researcher

☐ Other:

Do you publish using open access?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Sometimes

☐ Never

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1lqZch4yex7LTtoSOnGhdl4OrQyH3FMuJJ2Xbr_dDwOrU/edit

Thank You!

